

REMARKS

Claims 1, 7-9, 11, 15-18, 21-23, 25-30 and 32 are pending in the present application. By this reply, claims 5, 6, 14, 24 and 31 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 11, 18 and 28-30 are independent claims.

Initialed Form PTO-1449 Needed

Applicants have filed an IDS on July 10, 2003, but have not yet received the Examiner-initialed Form PTO-1449. A copy of the Form PTO-1449 filed with the IDS on July 10, 2003 is attached hereto. The Examiner is respectfully requested to return the initialed Form PTO-1449.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 28-30 are allowed over the prior art of record.

Claims 6, 14 and 24 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

To expedite prosecution and to place the application into condition for allowance, independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate therein allowable claim 6 and its intervening claim 5. Similarly, independent claims 11 and 18 have been amended to incorporate therein allowable claims 14 and 24,

respectively. Therefore, independent claims 1, 11 and 18 and all of their dependent claims 7-9, 15-17, 21-23, 25-27 and 32 should be indicated as allowed over the prior art of record.

35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 Rejections

Claims 1, 11, 18, 27 and 31 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Lee et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,323,523, hereinafter Lee). Claims 11, 15, 16, 18 and 25-27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kim. Claims 1, 5, 7-9, 18, 21-23, 25-27, 31 and 32 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tsukude in view of Ito and Lin. Claim 17 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee in view of Lin.

Without acquiescing to any of the Examiner's allegations made in rejecting these claims, independent claims 1, 11 and 18 have now been amended to incorporate therein allowable claims 6, 14 and 24, respectively, as discussed above. Accordingly, the application is now in condition for allowance and all of the rejections are moot and should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons and in view of the above clarifying amendments, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw all of the objections and rejections of record, and earnestly solicit an early issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

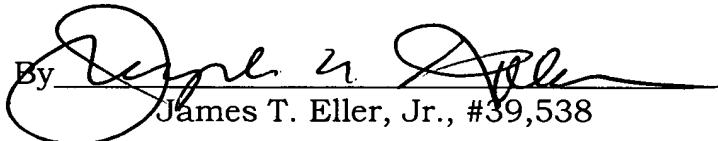
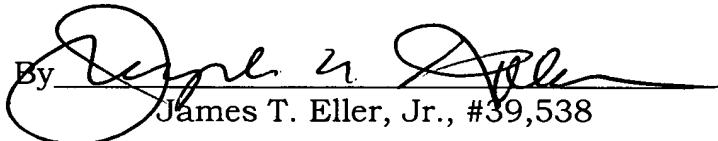
The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Amendment After Final Rejection, in that it raises no new issues but merely places the claims in a form more clearly patentable over the references of record. In the alternative, the Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Amendment After Final Rejection in that it reduces the issues for appeal.

Should there be any outstanding matters which need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Esther H. Chong (Registration No. 40,953) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and further replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Form PTO-1449